

## CORNHUSKER ITEMS

News of All Kinds Gathered From Various Points Throughout Nebraska.

## OF INTEREST TO ALL READERS

Jobbers, retailers and consumers in western Nebraska have been placed on sugar rations by the Great Western Sugar Company. City customers are limited to 50 cents worth at a time and rural patrons to \$1.00 worth. Jobbers are limited to the amount they purchased last year. Shipment of sack sugar by people in the district to friends and relatives in the eastern end of the state is believed to have precipitated the action.

The Carnegie bronze medal has been posthumously awarded to the late Oscar A. Downing, son of Cyrus Downing, pioneer of Stuart, for giving his life in an effort to save two children from drowning at Somers, Mont., May 3, 1918. The medal will be sent to his orphaned daughter, Ethel, 17 years old, who is making her home with relatives near Stuart.

W. R. Danielson was again chosen secretary of the Nebraska State Fair at the annual meeting of the Nebraska Board of Agriculture at Lincoln. J. F. McArdle of Omaha was made president, and Charles Graff of Bancroft, vice president. September 5 to 10 were selected for state fair dates.

An intensive two-months' drive for recruits to the Nebraska national guard in accordance with plans for reorganization of this body as urged by Secretary of War Baker, was launched with the organizing at Lincoln of the National Guard Association of Nebraska.

Reports from Lincoln state that the first step to be taken by Mrs. G. C. Ryan, director of the Nebraska economy campaign, will be to ascertain the prices being charged for all staple commodities throughout the state.

The Great Western Sugar Co. announced at Gering it would pay bonus of \$1 a ton on all beets delivered to its factories this year. This means over \$500,000 more for beet growers in western Nebraska.

Custer county claims the oldest living white man in this country. He is Thomas Morris and lives with Charles W. Mytton, eight miles northeast of Ansley. Mr. Morris was 128 years old January 15.

John M. Matzen, newly appointed State Superintendent of Schools, who is now in charge of affairs in that office, announces he will make no changes in the department at least for the present.

A love fest attended by over 300 prominent Nebraska democrats was held at Lincoln the other day and the first guns for the 1920 campaign were fired at all opposing factions.

While the influenza situation at Omaha is said by health authorities to be in nowise dangerous, precautionary measures have been adopted to check any outbreak of the malady.

The record price for farm land in Lancaster county was smashed the other day when a quarter section west of Lincoln, without any improvements, sold for \$350 an acre.

Ogallala's Community club, which started off the first of the year with a paid secretary, is proving to be one of the liveliest organizations of the kind in the state.

Mrs. Chas. G. Ryan, chairman of the Nebraska economy campaign, has appealed to the public not to buy potatoes at the present price. Hominy and beans as a substitute was advocated.

Rumors in financial circles at Lincoln have it that prospects for construction of an interurban railway between Omaha and Lincoln are brighter than ever before.

A contract for the erection of a \$25,000 nurses' home to be erected by the Mennonite hospital association at Beatrice, has been awarded to local contractors.

Between fifty and one hundred children were suddenly taken sick in an Omaha public school with a malady said by physicians to resemble influenza.

Alliance has its company organized for the second regiment of the Nebraska Rifles. The unit is prepared to cope with any emergency.

George W. Williams, who has been with the department of agriculture at the head of the bureau of marketing, has resigned.

The board of education at Beatrice has raised the salaries of school teachers 20 to 25 per cent for the remainder of the school year.

Frank Dovel, a Stella buyer, shipped three cars of horses and mules from the district to Kansas City, representing a distribution of at least \$10,000 to farmers for their surplus stock.

The Oklahoma Oil syndicate now engaged in leasing the oil privileges on lands around Erla at the head of the cedar, in Garfield county, will begin prospecting in March according to reports.

The big drop in the eastern hay market has reached the shipping point markets of Holt and Rock counties, the big hay producers of the state. The best hay only is bringing \$14 on the cars and much of it is selling for \$10 and \$12 a ton.

Plans for the new \$5,000,000 Nebraska capitol building to be directed at Lincoln, designing of which has been left in the hands of ten competing architects, must be submitted to the state capitol commission by the middle of June, according to Governor McElvick, member of the commission.

The university of Nebraska dairy department announces a new milk and butter record cow for Nebraska. Tulip Pietertje Kohnen 2nd 165,892, a Holstein cow owned by C. H. Starke of Red Cloud, produced 26,721.5 pounds of milk and 1,000.40 pounds of butter in a year. This record supersedes that of the Holstein cow, La May 122-173, owned by the university of Nebraska, whose record is 26,692 pounds of milk.

The disagreement of two juries in the trials of George Davis in the district court at Omaha for alleged assault on Mayor Smith on the night of the riot September 28, is unequalled in the annals of criminal court records in Douglas county and has cost thousands of dollars. The man will be placed on trial again, it is said.

The frequent accidents caused throughout the state by children driving automobiles has been taken up by newspapers in a number of cities, and unless parents intercede it is likely arrests will take place, as there is a law in Nebraska against youngsters driving automobiles.

The Lincoln Commercial club has advanced \$150,000 to the Nebraska State Fair management, to construct a new two-story concrete cattle auditorium for the fair next fall. The old barn on the fair grounds burned December 14, with fifty army trucks.

Passage of the Fuller pension bill by congress which provides for \$50 a month for soldiers who served 90 days in the civil war, and \$30 a month for widows, caused rejoicing among the members of the G. A. R. in Nebraska.

Prediction is made that Holt county will be one of the leading counties in Nebraska in potato production inside of two years. Many potato fields in the county this year yielded from 100 to 125 bushels to the acre.

Organized agriculture meetings at Lincoln during the past week were exceptionally well attended and were conceded by those on hand to be the most enthusiastic ever held in Nebraska.

It is reported in Lincoln that a test of the constitutionality of the school district consolidation law will be made and that it will probably come up to the supreme court from Nemaha county.

The funeral of Charles E. Magoon, former governor of the Panama Canal zone and from 1906 to 1909 provisional governor of Cuba, who died in Washington, D. C., was held at Lincoln.

Grant L. Shumway, of Scottsbluff, former state land commissioner, has filed as a candidate for the democratic nomination for governor at the spring primaries.

Miss Theresa St. Martin of Wahoo has been chosen secretary of the Saunders County Farm Bureau. She is the first woman in Nebraska to be elected to such an office.

A post of the American Legion has been formed at Fullerton. It is known as "Fred Philbrick" post in honor of a Fullerton boy who lost his life in the war.

Plans for the next G. A. R. encampment at Broken Bow in May were laid at a conference in the office of Department Commander J. B. Strode at Lincoln.

George Jackson, of Nelson, three times a member of the legislature, is talked as the candidate of progressive democrats for nomination for governor.

The annual Roundup at Ogallala will be held this year June 10 to 12. The affair is to be the biggest ever held in the city, it is said.

Dr. Elizabeth Hohl, McCook, lady physician, has announced her candidacy for delegate to the republican national convention.

Preliminary moves are being made at Alliance to construct a new \$100,000 senior high school building the coming summer.

It is expected that by the first of May the water works and light systems will both be in operation at Oshkosh.

Kenney is advertising for bids for forty-nine blocks of paving and more districts are being erected.

Voters of Minden will pass on water extension bond proposition at a special election February 3.

Fire of an unknown source destroyed two of Leigh's largest business houses during the past week.

Fifty new houses are to be erected at Nebraska City by a building and loan company.

The Burlington railroad has leased part of its right-of-way through Laurel for a public park.

Plans are under way for erection of a new modern, fire-proof hotel at Oshkosh.

Eight blocks in the business section of O'Neill will be paved this spring.

Automobile tourists passing through McCook are to be provided with camping and park facilities along the Republican river.

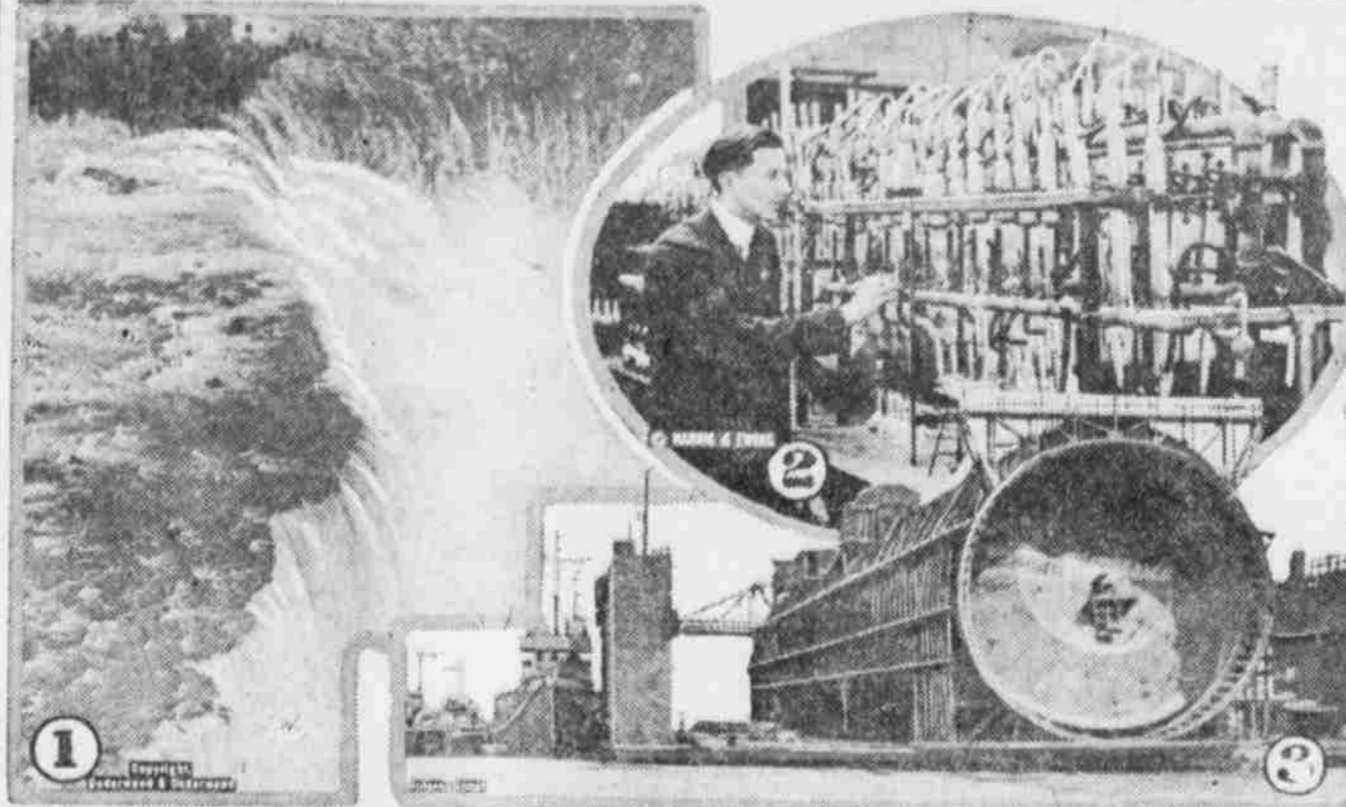
Steps have been taken to erect a memorial hall at Fremont in honor of Dodge county men who entered the service during the war.

On account of lack of interest in a meeting scheduled to be held at Lincoln a few days ago for the purpose of reorganizing the State League of Base Ball Clubs, former President Miles postponed the meeting until some time late in February.

The third Nebraska road institute will be held during the first week of March on the city campus, of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

McCook is making preparations to hold an automobile show in the spring. Tractors, trucks and all forms of motor equipment will be exhibited in a huge tent.

Eleven acres of ground in the south part of Lincoln have been purchased by the State Department of Public Works to be used as storage space for state road equipment which can be left in the open.



1—Remarkable airplane photograph of Niagara Falls taken from an elevation of 350 feet. 2—Stills owned and operated by the government as part of the laboratory for testing the alcoholic content of drinks. 3—Great German submarine testing tank that is now owned by the British.

## NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Britain Hurrying to Put Up a Barrier Against Bolsheviki in the Caucasus.

MAY REQUIRE 200,000 TROOPS

Holland Unwilling to Surrender Former Kaiser for Trial—Admiral Sims' Sensational Charges Against Navy Department—Administration Organ Booms Hoover for President.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Soviet Russia's threat against Persia, and consequently against all of southern Asia, as was foreseen, has so alarmed the British that they are hurrying to the defense of their great interests in that part of the world. Naval forces from the Mediterranean already have been sent into the Black sea and troops, probably about 10,000 of them at first, may be dispatched to the Caucasus at once. Batum, at the eastern point of the Black sea, is their first objective, and from there they will undertake to occupy and hold the line of the Tiflis-Baku railway running to the Caspian. Georgia and Azerbaijan, the two new republics which make up the peninsula between the inland seas, have asked assistance against the soviet forces, and the barrier against Trotsky's armies must be built there. According to dispatches from Paris the supreme council believes that ultimately at least 100,000 troops will be needed in the Caucasus, and perhaps the estimate will be doubled later. France, of course, because of her interests in Syria, is concerned only in a lesser degree than is Great Britain in the advance of the bolsheviks toward Asia Minor. As her share, it is understood, France will relieve the British of all participation in the military work in the plebiscite area in Germany, the official announcement by Marshal Foch being that the British troops are "not ready." They had been waiting at Cologne for months for this duty, however, so it is fair to presume that they will be hurried to the near East.

The British already have small forces in Persia and have begun the organization of the Persian army, but the native troops cannot yet be counted on to any great extent. Aside from protecting her broad avenue to the Indian frontier, Britain is vitally interested in saving the immensely valuable oil fields of which Baku is the center. Moreover, under the secret treaty negotiated last summer, Great Britain is bound to protect Persia.

Another move to check the bolsheviks is reported from Warsaw, where it is rumored that the Rumanians are preparing to occupy Odessa and organize its defenses against the soviet forces.

Preceding these developments came the news that the supreme council had lifted the trade blockade against soviet Russia, and the bolshevik leaders hailed this as a sure sign that the allies were about to make peace with them. Their belief appears to be unfounded, though the disposition to withdraw from all intervention within the boundaries of Russia is growing mightily. Even the Japanese announce that they are about to quit Siberia, where, however, their protégé, General Semenov, has just declared himself supreme ruler because Admiral Kolchak has disappeared. The Czechs are still along the trans-Siberian railway in the Lake Balkal region and bloody conflicts between them and the Semenov troops are said to be frequent.

The essential weakness of the Kolchak-Semenov opposition to the bolsheviks, as of the movements led by Denikine, Yudenitch and others, lies in the fact that all these leaders are recognized as representatives of the reactionary and monarchistic elements. Thus they cannot hold the support of the great mass of the people, who, if not bolsheviks, are social revolutionists and social democrats. For this

reason, too, the presence of the Japanese in Siberia has been a constant source of trouble. Correspondents pay high tribute to General Graves for the way in which he has handled the American troops in Siberia in all this mixup.

The conference of the Baltic nations closed with the appointment of a commission to work out a plan for a defensive alliance against soviet Russia. Contrary to expectations, there was not even discussion of the question of making peace with the bolsheviks. Lithuania wanted to form an alliance with Estonia and Latvia against Poland, and when this was rejected the Lithuanians virtually withdrew from the conference. It is intimated that Lithuania may make alliances with both soviet Russia and Germany, which would make the position of Poland even more uncomfortable than it now is.

Jugo-Slavia, at this writing, is standing pat on its claims to Fiume and its consequent refusal to accept the settlement of the Adriatic question adopted by Great Britain, France and Italy. It will hold to this position, said a Serbian diplomat, as long as President Wilson supported it, and would then be willing to submit the entire question to the League of Nations. The supreme council on Tuesday sent a note to Belgrade which, it was said, gave the Jugo-Slavs four days to reconsider their refusal, and threatened that if they persisted the principles set forth in the pact of London would be applied to the territories in dispute. This is more even than Italy now is asking.

The long awaited demand on Holland for the surrender of the former German emperor was dispatched by the allies, and near the end of the week the reply was received by the supreme council. Though at this time the reply had not been made public, it was generally understood that in it Holland refused to give up the refugee for trial, considering that this is her international duty and bearing in mind the fact that the Dutch constitution forbids extradition. The Dutch press denies that feelings of sympathy or antipathy have anything to do with the course adopted by the government. If the sanctity of William's refuge is to be preserved one wonders how Lloyd George can carry out his pre-election promise to bring him to justice. The possibility of trying and condemning him by default has been considered.

Politics, especially in a presidential election year, seizes on nearly everything for its own uses, and that is the fate that has befallen Admiral Sims' scathing criticism of the navy department and its chief, Secretary Daniels. It is being treated as a partisan matter by the senate, whose naval affairs committee has it in hand. The Republicans—excepting Senator Borah—are supporting the admiral, and the Democrats by the same token have rallied to the defense of Daniels. The most sensational charge made by Sims was that on his departure for England a high official of the department said to him: "Don't let the British pull the wool over your eyes. It is none of our business pulling their chestnuts out of the fire. We would as soon fight the British as the Germans."

Secretary Daniels flatly denies having said this, or anything like it, and the admiral said he would tell only the committee the name of the man who did. More important was the general charge that Sims never was given whole-hearted and efficient support by the department in the prosecution of the war at sea, and that the cost of Daniels' policy, or lack of policy, was the loss of many lives and much shipping. All of this was contained in a letter from Admiral Sims to the department, which the admiral made public at the demand of the senate subcommittee investigating the matter of naval decoration awards. The whole scandal will be given a thorough airing, and the Republicans will not overlook the additional material it may give them for the campaign.

The sensation of the week in domestic politics was the announcement of the New York World that it was for Herbert Hoover for president, on any ticket, "on a platform representing the kind of government which Mr. Hoover has exemplified in his public career."

Since the World has been the leading metropolitan organ of the Wilson administration this aroused great interest and some excitement in the Democratic camp. The important question, of course, was whether or not it meant that Mr. Hoover was the choice of Mr. Wilson. No one could answer this officially. Some of the Southern Democrats said they would not favor Hoover because they considered him a Republican; some of the members of the party from the West thought the farmers would oppose him because he put a fixed price on wheat and let cotton soar. Mr. Hoover himself maintained a dignified silence. The secretary of the Bryan league says Colonel House is responsible for the Hoover boom.

There has been some talk of Edward I. Edwards, the wet governor of New Jersey, as the Democratic nominee, and there, too, Mr. Bryan comes to the front. He says he would oppose any such movement and would not be a delegate to the convention if Nebraska should instruct for Edwards. Furthermore, if Homer S. Cummings favors Edwards he will never again be national chairman of the Democratic party if Bryan can prevent it. So there!

While the federal prohibition agents are seizing millions of dollars' worth of liquors and the bootleggers on the borders and the moonshiners everywhere are making small fortunes, one wisp of hope is held out to the wets. The Supreme court of the United States has granted to Rhode Island permission to institute in that court original proceedings to test the validity of both the prohibition amendment to the Constitution and the Volstead enforcement act. The suit is brought by direction of the Rhode Island legislature, which refused to ratify the amendment. It is alleged that the amendment is an interference with the state police powers and a violation of the fifth constitutional amendment, and is "unconstitutional and void."

A generally overlooked feature of the prohibition law which is of immense interest to thousands of property owners was brought to public attention last week. This section imposes a fine of not more than \$2,000 or a prison sentence of not more than two years on the owners of property upon which are displayed signs or posters advertising liquors which are intoxicating.

The first cargo of radicals deported from the United States was landed in Finland and on Monday of last week the reds crossed the border into Russia, where they were greeted by bolstered crowds of their brother bolsheviks. Emma Goldman and Berkman were the last to cross the frozen river between the two countries. Preparations to send over a lot more of that ilk are proceeding and arrests are of daily occurrence. In Chicago William Bross Lloyd, the millionaire communist, and 34 of his fellows were indicted for conspiracy to overthrow the government.

Despite the severest kind of criticism from many eminent citizens of all parties, the majority in the New York assembly insisted on the suspension of the five Socialist members-elect, and they are now on trial before the assembly judiciary committee, charged with disloyalty. Some of the best lawyers the Socialist party can boast are engaged in the defense, but the committee excluded the New York City Bar association committee, headed by C. E. Hughes, from independent participation in the proceedings. That association was among those that condemned the action of the assembly. Morris Hillquit, chief counsel for the defendants, said if the decision was against them it would "let loose the violent revolution which we Socialists have always endeavored to stem."

Defeated for the presidency of France by Paul Deschanel, M. Clemenceau has retired from public life with the plaudits of his associates of the allied nations ringing in his ears. Millerand, a strong man, succeeds him as premier and as president of the peace conference. Clemenceau's downfall was not surprising, for, despite his splendid conduct of affairs during the war, he had a host of bitter enemies in France. The new government does not hold out to Germany any hopes of more lenient treatment than did the old.

## LAND TO BE OPENED

NEBRASKA AND WYOMING TRACTS TO BE OFFERED.

5,000 ACRES IN EACH STATE

Drawing to Take Place in February and March—Largest Opening for Years in the West.

Washington, D. C.—The United States Reclamation Service has announced that approximately 10,000 acres of reclaimed land in Wyoming and Nebraska will be opened to homestead entry early next March. Application for entry upon irrigated farms composing a tract of about 5,000 acres in the North Platte valley project, embracing a large section of the border areas of each state, will be accepted from February 28 to March 5, it was said. Shoshone, Wyo., project will be accepted during the week following. Drawings will be made to determine the right of entry in each case where two or more applications are made for the same farm.

The North Platte valley tract, part of a project in which hundreds of thousands of acres already have been reclaimed, by storing up the waters of the North Platte river behind the great Pathfinder dam, will be opened, it was stated, on a water service rental basis for the first three years. When the irrigating system has been entirely completed at the end of that time so the cost can be computed and assessed to the acre, the homesteader will assume entry upon an ownership basis.

The 10,000 acres comprised in these two tracts constitute the largest area of reclaimed land opened to the homesteader in more than five years, officials of the service said.

## SAYS PUBLIC GOUGED.

Senator From Kansas Denounces Profiteers in Bitter Terms.

Washington, D. C.—Senator Capper of Kansas, in a speech on the floor of the senate declared that profiteers are "slandering the public," and that they are a more serious menace of the peace of this country than all the radicals, I. W. W.'s and so-called "reds" combined.

Profiteering is becoming the last straw in the strained economic situation, he declared. He scored the department of justice for not being more aggressive in prosecuting profiteers. Senator Capper advocated jailing them. He lambasted large earnings of big concerns, declaring the wrath of the people is being stirred by this plundering. "The net profits of the American Woolen company, after federal taxes had been deducted, were \$2,778,600 in 1914 and \$12,324,084 in 1918," he declared. Figures regarding the enormous profits made during the past year by the Central Leather company, the Crucible Steel company, the United States Steel corporation and others.

He submitted quotations which proved it is profiteering in manufactures, in the great industrial corporations, that has sandbagged the public, rather than profiteering by merchants who deal directly with the consumer.

## Stirred By Hoover Boom.

Washington, D. C.—The Herbert Hoover for president boom, urged by the New York World, has resulted in a lively political stir here. The New York World, one of the foremost democratic newspapers in the country, has come forward boldly and claimed Hoover as its own.

In the senate, Hoover talk has been heard both for and against the former food dictator. Generally speaking, republicans opposed Hoover as their candidate. Democratic comment offered more profitable field for speculation. It has been conceded there was a chance of his nomination in San Francisco next summer.

## Flu Spreads Despite Efforts.

New York.—Despite the strenuous efforts being made by the health authorities to check the spread of influenza, the number of cases is increasing daily. Health Commissioner Copeland announced. Since January 1, there have been a total of 8,799 influenza and 3,187 pneumonia cases reported. In the same period there have been 159 influenza and 1,099 pneumonia deaths.

## American Captured by "Reds."

Chita, East Siberia.—Colonel Hunt and seven other American engineers: Miss Ford, Captain Charette and several other members of the American Red Cross, and an entire Polish army, composed of former prisoners, have been captured by the bolsheviks at Kluchinskaya, according to a garbled telegram received from Joseph H. Ray, former American consul at Irkutsk. The dispatch from Mr. Ray was sent from somewhere beyond Nizhny-Novgorod, January 14. It was somewhat garbled in transmission.

## Empty Wine in Gutter.

Los Angeles.—Thirty-five thousand gallons of wine, valued at more than \$100,000, according to officials, was poured into the gutter here under provisions of the prohibition law.

## Influenza Epidemic in Cuba.

Washington, D. C.—Six thousand cases of influenza have been reported in Havana, Cuba, the public health service is advised. The service announced that all possible precautions to prevent an influx of the disease into the United States is being taken.